

**Tri-Party Agreement**

December 1, 1997

**Information Update for...*****Community Relations Plan for the Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order***

As a requirement of the *Community Relations Plan for the Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order*, enclosed is the most recent revision to the "Public Involvement Opportunities – A Six-Month Look Ahead, November 1997 – April 1998," dated November 5, 1997. This information was discussed at the Tri-Party Agencies Quarterly Public Involvement Planning Meeting held in Portland, Oregon.

Also enclosed is the current list of Hanford Advisory Board Members for your information.

If you have any questions, please contact Gail McClure, DOE, at (509) 373-5647; Dennis Faulk, EPA, at (509) 376-8631; or Zelma Maine-Jackson, Ecology, at (509) 736-3024.

- Attach: 1) Public Involvement Opportunities – A Six-Month Look Ahead  
2) List of Hanford Advisory Board Members

***Community Relations Plan for the Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order***  
**Distribution List:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation/Address</u>	
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Michael Turner	Washington Dept. of Ecology/B5-18	(10)
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Andrea Hopkins	FDH Facilities Transition Project/N1-26	
Julie Robertson	B&W, PFP/T5-54	
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Marc Stevenson	FDH TPA Integration/G3-27	
Russ Brown	FDH TPA Integration/G3-27	
Mary Ann McLaughlin	FDH TPA Integration/G3-27	
Larry Arnold	FDH TPA Integration/G3-27	
Ron Morrison	FDH TPA Integration/G3-27	
Owen Kramer	FDH TPA Integration/G3-27	
Christine Goody	FDH TPA Integration/G3-27	
John Rayner	BHI TPA Integration/HO-11	
Nancy Myers	BHI External Affairs/HO-14	
Sue Kuntz	BHI External Affairs/HO-14	
Enid Reck	FDH Communications/B3-35	
Michele Gerber	FDH Communications/B3-35	
Gregory LeBaron	B&W, 324-327 Bldgs/S6-19	
Barbara Wise	PNNL/K8-15	
Peter Bengtson	PNNL/A0-21	
Doug Chapin	DOE-RL FFTF Standby Project Office/N2-36	

## Public Involvement Opportunities A Six-Month Look Ahead November 1997 – April 1998

A key purpose of public involvement is to gain stakeholder perspective on issues affecting the Tri-Party Agreement and to facilitate broad-based participation in the Hanford decision making process. Described below are the principal topics expected to be of interest for the next six months. The particular type of involvement opportunity will vary according to the issue.

### **Hanford Budget Cycle 1997-'99:**

Hanford's FY 1999 budget was submitted to USDOE Headquarters in June, 1997. DOE-RL has continued during the FY 1999 budget process to engage the public and other interested parties in identifying cleanup and funding priorities before forwarding recommendations to USDOE Headquarters. There will be some overlap between the FY 1999 budget and the public comment process for the DOE's Accelerating Cleanup: Focus on 2006, formerly known as the Ten Year Plan. Briefings and consultations will continue to be available for Hanford regulators, local governments, State of Oregon, stakeholders and Tribal Nations. During the November-December timeframe the FY 2000 budget will be developed. The process will be ongoing through mid-Spring.

**Public participation:** Final budget allocations for the U.S. Department of Energy's EM Program and the Hanford Site are not identified at this time.

*Contact: Jim Peterson, DOE-RL, (509)376-6731.*

### **USDOE's Accelerating Cleanup: Focus on 2006 (and Hanford 2006 Plan):**

USDOE released for public comment a discussion draft of *Accelerating Cleanup: Focus on 2006*, a report proposing strategies to clean up as many contaminated USDOE sites as possible by 2006. The Hanford discussion draft 2006 plan was released concurrently for review. The national planning process is designed to accelerate cleanup, reduce overall costs and maintain the department's commitment to meet federal and state regulations and compliance agreements.

**Public participation:** The 90-day public comment period for the discussion draft and site specific plans ended on September 9, 1997. In November/December, DOE-HQ anticipates release of a comment disposition document on the 2006 Plan decision draft. It is also anticipated that in February 1998, the EM and Hanford draft documents will be issued for review and comment. The discussion draft may be accessed on the worldwide web at <http://www.em.doe.gov/acc2006/>

*Contact: Call the Center for Environmental Management (CEM) at 1-800-736-3282 or send an e-mail to [FocusOn2006@EM.DOE.GOV](mailto:FocusOn2006@EM.DOE.GOV), or contact Jim Daily, DOE-RL at (509)376-7721.*

## **K Basins/Spent Nuclear Fuel Transitions Milestone Changes**

The Tri-Parties Agencies have reached a revised tentative agreement identifying project schedules and cost estimates which will direct milestone changes relating to the removal of 2,100 metric tons of spent nuclear fuel from the K Basins. Other proposed milestones will address the treatment and/or removal of millions of gallons of tritium contaminated water left in the basins after the fuel is removed, and transition of the project to DOE's Environmental Restoration Program.

**Public Participation:** A second 45-day public comment period on the Tri-Party Agreement change package is planned for December. Requests for a public meeting will be considered and responded to accordingly by the Tri-Party Agencies.

*Contacts: Roger Stanley, Ecology (360)407-7108; Doug Sherwood, EPA (509)376-9529; George Sanders, DOE-RL, (509)376-6888.*

## **N Area Remediation:**

Work is under way to finalize the corrective measure study and proposed plan for 100-NR-1/100-NR-2 Operable Units, and the corrective measure study for the 100-NR-1 Treatment, Storage and Disposal facility and other past practice waste sites, and an the engineering evaluation/cost analysis for the 100-N Area ancillary facilities and integration plan.

**Public Participation:** Discussions are being held to resolve EPA comments on the proposed plan. The public involvement plan will be revised to include current information upon resolution of comments.

*Contacts: Phil Staats, Ecology, (509)736-3029; David Olson, DOE-RL (509)376-7142.*

## **200 Area Soil Remediation Strategy:**

The Tri-Party Agencies have completed negotiations on a new strategy that focuses on the assessment and Remediation of 200 Area waste sites within the Environmental Restoration Project. This strategy applies a combination of lessons learned from 100 and 300 Area investigations, aligns Milestones 13 and 20, and changes the investigation approach from operable units to waste type sites.

**Public Participation:** A 45-day public comment period for the change package will begin mid-November. The public comment period will be announced with a fact sheet to the highly interested Hanford Site mailing list and newspaper advertisement in the *Tri-City Herald*.

*Contacts: Jack Donnelly, Ecology, (509)736-3013; Doug Sherwood, EPA, (509)376-9529; Bryan Foley, DOE-RL, (509) 376-8631.*

## **Columbia River Comprehensive Impact Assessment:**

This project evolved from public concerns about effects of Hanford on the Columbia River to human health, the river environment and cultural resources. A public comment period for the draft document *Screening Assessment and Requirements for a Comprehensive Assessment, Columbia River Comprehensive Impact Assessment* ended on June 30, 1997.

**Public Participation:** The final document, including a summary of response to comments, will be made available on November 30, 1997. The final document will be available on the Internet and in the information repositories.

*Contacts: David Holland, Ecology, (509)736-3027; Larry Gadbois, EPA, (509)376-9884; Robert Stewart, DOE-RL, (509)376-6192.*

## **Hanford Remedial Action Environmental Impact Statement & Comprehensive Land Use Plan:**

The proposed action for the EIS is to develop a comprehensive future land-use plan for the Hanford Site (due March 15, 1998). As mandated by Public Law 104-201, Section 3153, the planning period for the proposed action must extend over a 50-year time frame.

Once established, this land-use plan will provide a framework for decision-makers to guide land- and facility-use decisions. Specifically, this EIS will designate land uses for the Hanford Site based on analyses of land-use suitability, as well as visions, goals and objectives of the cooperating agencies (DOE, Department of Interior, Washington Department of Fish and Wild Life, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Indian Nation, the Nez Perce Tribe, City of Richland, and Benton, Franklin, and Grant counties).

**Public Participation:** The comprehensive future land-use will be issued for public comment prior to the due date of March 15, 1998.

*Contact: Tom Ferns, DOE-RL, (509)376-0649.*

## **Fast Flux Test Facility (FFTF):**

The FFTF is currently in a standby condition pending a USDOE decision on whether the Facility will play a future role in the national tritium production strategy. This decision is to be made on or before December 1998. Three Tri-Party Agreement milestones associated with the FFTF deactivation have been completed. Although deactivation work has continued on activities that would not affect a potential reactor restart, progress toward completing other TPA milestones is on hold. The Tri-Party agencies have signed a tentative agreement to delete the current FFTF transition program from the Tri-Party Agreement scope pending: 1) the anticipated USDOE decision, and 2) a subsequent Tri-Party Agreement change and approval by the Tri-Party agencies, reflecting the USDOE decision. The proposed milestone change would allow all activities required during the standby condition to proceed.

**Public Participation:** The agencies have agreed to initiate a public comment period on the proposal to delete Tri-Party Agreement milestones for the FFTF. A 60-day public

comment period is planned from November 24, 1997 through January 23, 1998. Public meetings will be held in the Tri-Cities, Seattle, and Oregon (location to be determined). The dates and times will be announced when they become available.

*Contact: Ernie Hughes, DOE-RL, (509)373-9381, Roger Stanley, Ecology, (360)407-7108.*

### **Plutonium Finishing Plant Negotiations**

A deactivation and facility transition plan for the Plutonium Finishing Plant is currently being worked on by the Tri-Party Agencies. Although the initial schedule was delayed, an Agreement in Principle is being finalized that will shape the scope of negotiations. The new schedule calls for the completion of milestone negotiations by the end of March 1998. The focus of the negotiations will be on personnel safety and environmental protection, fissile material stabilization, special material handling and processing, and appropriate funding and budgeting.

As part of the resolution of a dispute associated with the negotiations, a working group began technical discussions to establish the basis of a RCRA Part A permit for the facility. DOE will be submitting a Part A, form 3 the treatment process in December 1997.

**Public Participation:** The Hanford Advisory Board, local governments, the State of Oregon and affected tribes will continue to receive periodic updates on the status of negotiations; Ecology will conduct a 150 day public comment period on the Part A permit; a 45 day comment period will begin upon completion of all TPA milestone negotiations; and a number of public forums or meetings are anticipated during the comment period. Negotiations are due to end March 31, 1998.

*Contacts: Roger Stanley, Ecology (360)407-7108; Doug Sherwood, EPA (509)376-9529; George Sanders, DOE-RL (509)376-6888.*

### **Commercial Low-level Radioactive Waste Disposal Facility (US Ecology)**

The state Departments of Health and Ecology are co-preparing an environmental impact statement to examine the commercial low-level radioactive waste facility operated by U.S. Ecology, Inc., at the Hanford Site. Among other things, the environmental impact statement will address amended regulations covering naturally-occurring and accelerator produced radioactive materials (NARM), and the facility's Final Closure Plan. A site investigation is also planned to determine whether dangerous wastes, disposed of during the facility's early stages of operations, have migrated into soils below some of the older trenches.

**Public Participation:** The state has initiated an extensive public involvement process that will keep citizens, tribes, interest groups, local governments, low-level waste industry representatives, and member states of the Northwest and Rocky Mountain Low-level Waste Compacts involved during the EIS and site investigation processes. A public comment period on the scoping of the EIS was completed, and a response to comment document was issued. Additional public comment periods are also planned for

the release of the draft EIS, and to coincide with the site investigation, which are both planned for early next year. At least one public hearing is also planned.

*Contact: Geoff Tallent, Ecology, (360)407-7113*

### **Waste Tank Leak Leakage Limits (now being performed under RPECA)**

Ecology is currently reviewing, and will be writing a formal response on the path forward, of DOE's submittal for this milestone which sets forth criteria for sluicing and retrieval of tank wastes in Hanford's Single-Shell tank farms. In the mean time, DOE and Ecology will continue to pursue leak detection, monitoring and mitigation for leakage during retrieval under the Retrieval Performance Evaluation Criteria Assessment (RPECA) scope of work. This work is also being done by DOE under the Hanford Tanks Initiative. Ecology has received comments from the Yakama Indian Nation, which raised concerns with the criteria developed, and the path forward. Ecology will convey the concerns to the DOE.

**Public Participation:** The Tri-Party agencies plan to keep stakeholders and the public abreast of any activities related to this issue. Briefings to the Hanford Advisory Board, periodic news releases, and articles in the *Hanford Update* are some of the informational vehicles being considered.

*Contacts: Tom Tebb, Ecology, (509)736-3020 or Craig West, DOE-RL, (509)373-7542.*

### **Hanford Title V Air Operating Permit**

The Department of Ecology is preparing to issue the draft Hanford Site Air Operating Permit. The permit is designed to combine the requirements from both the federal and state regulations into a single document. The permit covers all facilities at the Hanford Site, and specifies regulations for: emission limitations; monitoring of discharges, record-keeping, and reporting of monitoring activities. The draft permit is now ready for public comment and EPA review.

**Public Participation:** A 45-day public comment period is expected to start in December. A public meeting will be held in Kennewick during the public comment period

*Contact: Oliver Wang, Ecology (509)736-3040*

### **Tank Waste Remediation System's Privatization of Hanford's Tank Waste:**

Privatization contracts were awarded to teams led by Lockheed Martin Advanced Environmental Systems and British Nuclear Fuels Limited, Inc., on September 25, 1996. These contracts consist of two parts. Based on Part A performance, none, one, or both of the contractors will be authorized to proceed to Part B. During Part B, 6 to 13 percent of Hanford's tank waste will be treated. The cost of proceeding with Part B is expected to be between 5 to 7 billion dollars, including privatization contractor prices and Project Hanford Management Contract costs. By 2004 a second phase of the process will begin to process the remaining waste by 2028. To achieve the best decision for the next phase of TWRS privatization, information access and openness are essential to avoid confusion and derailment of tank cleanup. The project faces another public involvement challenge

as it prepares for an extremely business/procurement sensitive time from January through May 1998. Key contractor negotiations and decisions will be made and announced by the Secretary of Energy in late May 1998.

**Public Participation:** Presentations will be made available for community or service groups events, describing what privatization and how it affects Hanford cleanup. Regional newspaper editorial boards will be contacted to meet with Ecology and DOE project managers to discuss the schedule and process for Hanford tank waste cleanup. Regional radio talk show options will also be explored late in 1997 or early in 1998. Ongoing Hanford Advisory Board committee and Tribal Nation briefings will be made available during the coming quarter. A public meeting was held on October 30 in the Tri-Cities.

*Contact: Bill Taylor, DOE-RL, (509)372-3864.*

### **Tank Farm Vadose Zone and Groundwater Issues**

The Tri-Party Agencies are in discussion over a recent series of reports suggesting that radioactive and chemical wastes are leaking faster through the vadose zone under Hanford's Single Shell-Tank Farms than some earlier estimates had suggested. DOE and Ecology differ on the rate at which the contaminants are flowing, but they do agree that some have reached the groundwater sooner than expected. The agencies are in agreement that additional studies are needed.

**Public Participation:** DOE and Ecology plan to keep the public and stakeholders involved at each turn of events during this discussion. Also planned are briefings to the Hanford Advisory Board.

*Contact: Suzanne Dahl, Ecology, (509)736-5705, David Shafer, DOE, (509)376-9255, Mike Thompson, DOE, (509)373-0750.*

### **Solid Waste Program**

DOE is preparing an environmental impact statement for the Solid Waste Program at the Hanford Site and will conduct a public scoping process pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended. The Hanford Site Solid Waste Program manages several types of solid wastes at the Hanford Site, including low-level, mixed low-level, transuranic and mixed transuranic, hazardous wastes, and contaminated equipment. Mixed wastes contain radioactive and hazardous components. Other solid waste types (i.e., municipal solid waste, high-level waste, remediation waste) and spent nuclear fuel are managed by other Hanford Site programs. The EIS will evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with ongoing activities of the Hanford Site Solid Waste Program, the implementation of Hanford specific programmatic decisions resulting from the Final Waste Management Programmatic EIS, and reasonably foreseeable treatment, storage, and disposal facilities/activities. The EIS will evaluate alternatives for management of the radioactive and hazardous wastes, including waste generated at the Hanford Site or received from offsite generators.



**Public Participation:** The public scoping period began October 27 and will continue through December 11. Two public scoping meetings are scheduled for November 12 in Richland and November 13 in Pendleton.

*Contacts: Allison Wright, DOE, (509)373-7840*

### **Cultural and Historic Resources Program**

An issues exchange meeting was held by DOE on October 29 in Richland to discuss Hanford historical and cultural resource issues. Topics discussed included sorting and preserving historical items, protecting American Indian artifacts, and future activities in these fields. Also, discussions were held on the following documents that are being reviewed: Hanford Cultural Resource Management Plan, Treatment Plan Summary, Manhattan Project and Cold War Era Historic District Narratives, Historic Properties Inventory Forms, and Hanford's Curation Strategy.

**Public Participation:** The next meeting will be held at the East Benton County Museum in Kennewick at 6:00pm.

*Contact: Dee Lloyd, DOE, (509)372-2299.*

## HANFORD ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERSHIP

<b>ORGANIZATION/GROUP</b>	<b>PRIMARY MEMBER</b>	<b>ALTERNATE</b>
Benton County	Ben Floyd	Kenneth Bracken
Benton-Franklin Regional Council	Robert Larson	Charles Potter
City of Kennewick	George Kyriazis	Robert Noland
City of Pasco	Charles Kilbury	Joe Jackson
City of Richland	Pam Brown	Joe King
City of West Richland	Jerry Peltier	Stan Stave
Grant & Franklin Counties	Jack Yorgesen	Art Tackett
Tri-Cities Industrial Development Council	Harold Heacock	David Watrous
Central Washington Building Trades Council	Richard Berglund	Bill Wilcoxson
Hanford Atomic Metal Trades Council	Jim Watts Gary Muth*	Jay Rhodes
"Non-Union, Non-Management" Employees (2)	Madeleine Brown Wayne Martin	David Riddle Susan Leckband
Government Accountability Project	Tom Carpenter	
Lower Columbia Basin Audubon Society & Columbia River Conservation League	Rick Leaumont	Laura Zybas Bev Weisbrodt*

## HANFORD ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERSHIP

ORGANIZATION/GROUP	PRIMARY MEMBER	ALTERNATE
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Hanford Education Action League	Todd Martin	Lynne Stembridge
Hanford Watch & Hanford Action of Oregon Heart of America Northwest	Paige Knight Gerald Pollet	Robin Klein Cindi Laws
Washington League of Women Voters	Betty Tabbutt	Maureen McCarthy
Benton-Franklin Public Health Physicians for Social Responsibility	Dr. Margery Swint Dr. Richard Belsey	Dr. Ross Ronish Dr. Jim Trombold
Nez Perce Tribe	Paul Danielson Stan Sobczyk*	Dan Landeen
Yakama Indian Nation	Russell Jim	Thomas Woods Barbara Harper*
Oregon Hanford Waste Board	Shelley Cimon	Patty Yraguen
Oregon Department of Energy	Mike Grainey Mary Lou Blazek*	Ralph Patt Ken Niles* Dirk Dunning*

## HANFORD ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERSHIP

ORGANIZATION/GROUP	PRIMARY MEMBER	ALTERNATE
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Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation	Chris Burford	Stuart Harris
Washington State Department of Health	John Erickson	Debra McBaugh
US Department of Energy-RL	Alice Murphy	
US Environmental Protection Agency	Randall F. Smith	
Washington State Department of Ecology	Dan Silver	